Washington Colleges Overrun With Degree Collectors, Marston Asserts.

By WM. MOULTON MARSTON,

In Washington there are, propor tionately, more part-time students than anywhere else in the country. And a considerable number of these part-time students are confirmed "degree-collectors;" that is, people who go about collecting college and university degrees with the same sest and childish satisfaction in the parchment itself (which, alas, often sn't a parchment at all, in Washington, but only a piece of stiff paper) that you and I used to display in collecting stamps or marbles when we were boys, or that the ex-editor of the Ladies' Home Journal, Edward Bok, used to feel in collecting famous autographs. Why, I know one of these chronic students, a very close friend of mine, who has man-aged to gather in seven degrees in With him, apparently, "all is wheat that comes to the de

Like "Piggies" in Marbles.

Now I seem to recall, during my days of marble collecting, that ordinary marbles—"piggies" I think we called them-were all pretty much alike, and I was just as happy in winning a dozen dirty, decrepit, "piggies" as in acquiring twelve spic and span new ones. Moreover, when my collection reached about the thousand mark I began to be the thousand mark I began to be rather bored with my efforts to in-crease it, because each newly added increment meant that I had to count the whole thousand in order to glor in my increase and that was a little oo much like work. Do you see the hope this marble experience is point ing to in my mind with regard to our degree collectors? I am sure my friend of the seven degrees in par ticular will soon grow weary of por-ing over so many Latinly worded titles and will ease up in the expres tion of his collector's instinct. Quan tity never did permanently satisfy the human race and I think the time is not far distant when the mere number of "piggy" degrees it is pos sible to collect in a given time will cease to attract the intelligent Wash ingtonian, for practically all the stu dents with whom I have come into contact are unusually intelligent and that saturation point is reached it will be up to us univergree, which will contain real intel-lectual work enough to satisfy the enlightened demand of the students

Even while the rage for "piggies" was at its height, however, to revert to the marble-collecting ag once again, we boys were always very keen for "glassies," those great, fascinating, spheres of hard glass with beautiful, twisted, rainbow-colors at the center. A boy who had an unusually large and the center of all the boys in sight and every effort was made to get that glassie away from him and every effort was made to get that glassie away from him, by rector of music at the East Mauch trade, "shooting" at it, or sometimes, alas! by force. Now at American University, we're trying to supply "glassie" degrees. Per and rudimentary harmony. Mrs. wainwright has studied under the control of my distinguished and Wainwright has studied under haps some of my distinguished and Wainwright has studied under conservative colleagues on the facul- Thomas Tapper, critic, author and ty may object to my thus characterizing our supposedly dignified ef-forts to attain the highest educastandards. So I'll have to tional standards. So I'll have to ton. She is a post-graduate of the descend to conventional explanation New York University's course in

of our theory.

Difficulties Pointed Out.

The great difficulty in the way of giving intellectually first-class degrees to the degree-collectors in Washington, is the fact that they nearly all part-time students That is, they earn their living and go to school on the side. Now if my job required me to drop this my job required me to drop this article right here and rush off for a strenuous four hours' clerical work for the Great Lord So-and-So in the Department of Commerce, I should not be able to pick up the thread again instantly when I returned. and the result would be even more disconnected than it is. To pro-duce any first-class/ intellectual work it is psychologically necessary to concentrate on it over a consider switch off to something totally ir relevant, mentally. With under-graduate work, this is almost im-possible for the part-time student; for there is a wide variety of sub-ject that must be covered for any

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proper A. B.; and most of these elementary studies have little possi-ble connection with the work-activi-ties of the students. The best that ties of the students. The best that can be done is to take five or six years, instead of three or four, for the college course; and even then the result cannot be compared, intellectually, with a shorter period of undivided attention. I believe every boy and girl whe possibly can should have his college period free from psychologically irrelevant distractions.

But now I'm coming to the "glassie" part of it. If you can get a man or a woman with his A. B. or his LL. B. work accomplished; with a position in Washington exactly in line with his intelled. actly in line with his intellectual pecialization; and with all the splen-

## 'Ye Editor' of 1816 Saw Menace in Gaslights

In 1816 a New England newspaper contended that gas as an alluminant was pernicious for at least five reasons:

1. Artificial illumination was an attempt to interfere with the Divine scheme of things which had ordsined that it should be dark at night.

2. Emanations of illuminating gas were injurious. Lighted streets would induce people to remain fate out of doors, leading to increase of ailments by

3. Fear of darkness would vanish and drunkenness and depravity would increase.

4. Horses would be frightened

and thieves emboldened 5. If streets were illuminated every night, such constant illumination would rob festive

occasions of their charm. Wonder what Ye Editor would say to the modern boon of electric light. And would he call electric washers and cleaners just plain witchcraft?

## Mrs. Wainwright Joins

D. C. Music Instructor Mrs. Daniel, who is well known in the musical circles of Washingvear Mrs. Mary Guldin Wainwright. Mrs. Wainwright was formerly dilecturer in the New York University and the Institute of Musical Art; also Prof. Swift, of Bos-

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Editor Says. By D. N. TOWE. "Shorthand in Thirty Days" is frequently seen in the advertising did and unique opportunites here for columns of Washington newspapers, research of every kind available, then and there are thousands of people you have absolutely ideal conditions for graduate work; which is, of course, individual research in one's and have simply said to themselves: own line of specialization, whether "It cannot be done; it's a fake." that be law or bacteriology. Then, indeed, you have a "glassie," or for his first time. strictly graduate degree, which means something. The whole time He was often told before going that of the student may be concentrated there was an animal in existence within his field, continual practical which had a neck about six feet long applications and checks may be made of theoretical conclusions, and pieces of research may be accomplished among Washington's extraordinary sources of material that will be of world-wide interest and value. That is our theorem of the contended it is our theorem of the contended it is our theorem. world-wide interest and value. That it walk and eat, yet he contended it to use, for you have many more is our theory, at American Univermust be a put-up job. There is no things to keep in mind, such as rules. sity, and that is why Washington has, today, one strictly graduate university. When we look at Johns Hopkins today, and remember that it, too, started solely as a graduate it, too, started solely as a graduate that our school we find evidence distance that our school we find evidence that our sch school, we find evidence that our the atmosphere where there were identical advanced dictation text is cattle and horses, and not giraffes.

> today a standard system, and it is to wait before earning a salary?"
>
> Boyd Shorthand is the "impossil Unfortunately the system has not

various offices in this city. stenographer a day in a good position" is the motto of the local school.
Business men today want Boyd
students, as they are accurate rapid
writers and thoroughly competent.
Boyd Shorthand is a result of
necessity. The old systems are too
complicated and it takes too long a
time for the average student to
qualify for a stenographic position.

The National Daily

Affairs have changed since our fathers and mothers were boys and girls. The average young person today cannot afford to spend nine to twelve months in the learning of a complicated system of shorthand as they did years ago. they did years ago. Time is more voluable now and every minute has locked within it an opportunity This is a progressive age and every day notes another mark of improve-ment. The English language is written in twenty-six characters of the alphabet and Boyd Shorthand is based on the same scientific and practical principle, having 112 sylla-bles and three simple rules. This simplicity makes the study of shorthand easy, pleasant and profitable. A few people think that simply

because a system is long-drawn-out and difficult to master that it is a better system. It is reasonable to believe that a system which is more difficult to master is more difficult used as in the schools teaching the old systems. The difference is this-It may be true that you never heard that Boyd students use it after from of the system before you read the four to six weeks of school attendance, while students with the old advertisements in the local papers, systems use it after from six to over twelve months ago. Thousands twelve months of school attendance of other people have, and there is The same class of dictation is cov-such a system taught in Washington ered with one system as with the as "Shorthand in Thirty Days," other, but with Boyd as "Shorthand in Thirty Days." shorter time. The individual prob-which means thirty school days, or lem is this: "Is time and money about six weeks. Boyd shirthand is valuable, and how long do you want

taught from coast to coast in the to the few who do not know of its United States and in many of the value and are skeptical. This system has bee ntaught and used in cities like New York, Chicago and Phila-Unfortunately the system has not delphia for the past fifteen years, been advertised in this city as extensively as in other cities, yet many a rapher in the taking of simple, com-competent stenographer has left the plicated and technical dictation accu-class rooms of the local Boyd Busi-rately and rapidly is unquestionable ness College to fill stenographic posi- and a fact.

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